Movement of stray dogs in airports

2962. SHRI S. ANBALAGAN: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

whether Government is aware that a stray dog hit the nose of an aircraft which was taking off at the runway in Bangalore recently;

if not, the details thereof; and

the steps proposed to be taken by Government to prevent stray dog movements in various airports in the country to ensure safety to passengers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. On 27th March, 2008 at Bangalore airport, a rejected take off incident occurred to M/s. Kingfisher Airlines' ATR-72- 212, an aircraft operating as flight IT-2427, when a stray dog was noticed on the centreline of runway. Due to this, the aircraft finally came to halt with its nose resting on runway leading to blockage of runway for three and a half hours causing minor injury to two passengers.

(c) To prevent entry of stray dogs in the operational area, major steps such as increase in the frequency of runway inspection during each landing and departure, fencing of the airport periphery, grass cutting & checking of water logging inside the airport, wire meshing of the hangars, garbage dumping in covered bins and early removal, regular joint inspection of areas around the airport and deployment of Watch and Ward staff during aircraft operations are taken.

Food and snacks served in flights

2963. DR. K. MALAISAMY:
SHRI S. ANBALAGAN:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

the standard and periodicity maintained in the supply of food and snacks in Government owned airlines in India;

whether it is a fact that the very same stereotype of food/snacks are supplied to the passengers; and

if so, the reasons for not periodically changing the menu?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) to (c) National Aviation Company of India Limited (NACIL) engages established flight catering units wherever possible. It ensures that all flights catering Units have basic infrastructure, qualified manpower, adequately sterile packing/storing area for in-flight catering etc. NACIL offers a multi-cuisine menu catered by reputed flight kitchens like Taj SATS under the Taj Goup banner, Ambassadors' and LSG an international chain. Menus are rotated periodically and revised regularly so as to offer variety and they also cater to preferences of passengers with regional specialities and seasonal flavours. Special meals like those suitable to diabetics, Jain food, no oil-no salt meals etc. are also arranged on request. Meals served on outbound flights are different from those served on inbound flights so that passengers are not served the same type of food on both directions. Along with the

Summer/Winter flights schedule, menus are revised. Food festivals are also held on board of NACIL flights bringing the uniqueness of Indian cuisine. On festivals like Diwali, Onam, Pongal etc. special meals are uplifted.

International flights from Calicut

2964. SHRI K. CHANDRAN PILLAI: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

the details of total number of international passengers coming to Southern States, year-wise and airport-wise;

the details of the foreign airlines operating from these airports, airport-wise;

whether requests for permission to start services of foreign airlines from Calicut airport are pending with Government;

if so, the details thereof and the action taken by Government; and

the details of the criterion for permitting foreign airlines operating from the airports?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) The total number of international disembarked passengers during the year 2006-07 at Southern airports has been - Chennai - 1388118, Bangalore - 637940, Hyderabad - 598766, Cochin - 686446, Trivandrum - 566256, Calicut - 427354, Coimbatore - 4708, Mangalore - 15717, Trichi - 71277 and Vishakhapatnam - 18 respectively.

(b) The foreign airlines operating from Bangalore airport are Air Arabia, Air France, British Airways, Emirates, Ethiad Airways, Gulf Air, Lufthansa, Malaysian Airlines, Qatar Airways, Singapore Airlines, Srilankan Airlines and Thai International Airways; From Calicut airport are Srilankan Airlines and Air Arabia; From Chennai airport are Air Arabia, Air France, Air Mauritius, Alitalia, British Airways, Cargo Italia, Cargolux, Cathay Pacific Airways, Emirates, Ethaid Airways, Gulf Air, Korean Airlines, Kuwait Airways, Lufthansa, Malaysian Airlines, Oman Air, Qatar Airways, Saudi Arabian Airlines, Singapore Airlines, Srilankan Airlines, Thai International Airways, Tiger Airways, Transmile Cargo, Polar Air and Expo Cargo; From Cochin airport are Air Arabia, Emirates, Ethiad Airways, Gulf Air, Jazeera Airways, Kuwait Airways, Oman Air, Qatar Airways, Saudi Arabian Airlines, Silk Air, Srilankan Airlines and Tiger Airways; From Coimbatore airport are Air Arabia, Silk Air and Srilankan Airlines; From Hyderabad airport are Emirates, KLM Royal Dutch, Kuwait Airways, Lufthansa, Malaysian Airlines, Oman Air, Qatar Airways, Saudi Arabian Airlines, Singapore Airlines, Srilankan Airlines and Thai International Airways; From Trichy airport are Mihin Lanka and Srilankan Airlines; and from Trivandrum airport are Air Arabia, Emirates, Ethiad Airways, Gulf Air, Island Aviation, Kuwait Airways, Mihin Lanka, Oman Air, Qatar Airways, Silk Air and Srilankan Airlines respectively.